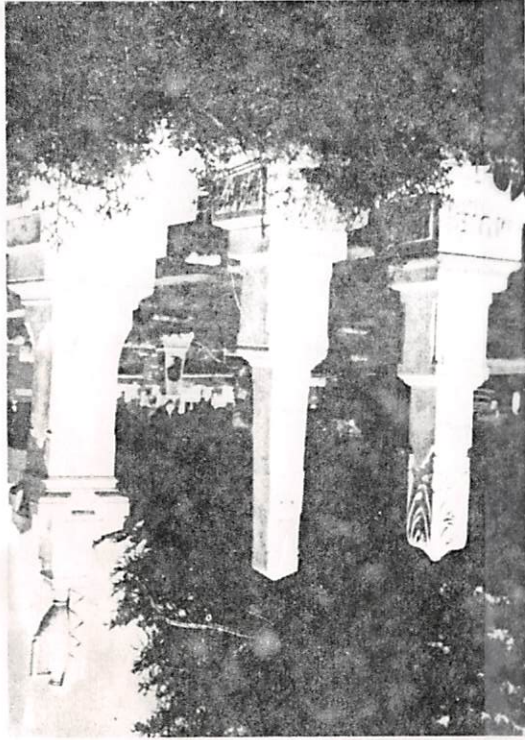


White Marble
Cliffs

Jeremiah
Robley

Project
in hi

Suske
Creek



Products of Early Marble Industry
- "under wasnt h skies", p 106

deal of temple work for his ancestors, both

Ruth came to Utah with her husband and five children, and settled in Provo. She joined the Church in her native state, West Virginia, in 1838, having been converted by some missionaries who were laboring in that section.

When she left with her children to go to Nauvoo she had no idea she would not return again to her West Virginia home and her people, but she never did, and never saw any of them again. She moved to Midway with her husband and family in the spring of 1859.

She endured many of the trials and hardships incidental to pioneer life, but was always cheerful and contented.

She was hospitable and made every one good hand in sickness and helped many who were suffering and in pain. She was always kind to little children and was loved and revered by her grandchildren. At the death of her daughter, Susan, she took her three little motherless girls and reared them to womanhood, caring for them as though they were her very own. The girls were: Sarah Jane Ross, who married Henry Alexander, Jr.; Susan Ross, who married William O'Neil; and Lavernia Virginia Ross, who married Hiram Gould, and later Fred Elder.

She was a sweet singer and used to sing the old-fashioned songs, and tell stories of her early days and experiences in crossing the plains and during the early Indian troubles. She loved to bear her testimony to the truthfulness of the Gospel, and that Joseph Smith was a prophet of the Lord. She was loved and respected by all who knew her. She died very suddenly while sitting in her chair on a Sunday morning at the age of 75 years and six months. She is buried in the Midway Cemetery.

The children of Jeremiah and Ruth Tucker-Robey were:

Theophilus Katen, married Sarah Mathews and later Maria Rolfe;

Mary Jane, married Sidney H. Epperson; Susan Lavernia, married James Ross; James Allison, died in infancy;

Maria and Sophia, twins, died in early childhood;

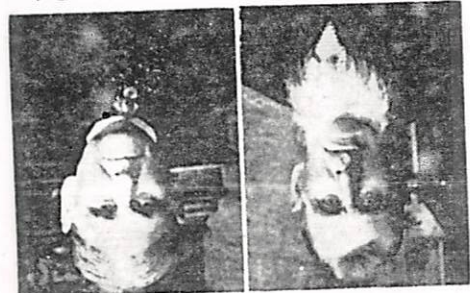
Jeremiah Albert, married Martha Dowdle; Jeremiah boys, who died at birth.

When they arrived in Nauvoo, they were welcomed by his friends and uncle's family. After remaining in Nauvoo for a short time, he was converted to the Gospel, and was baptized in May, 1841, by the Prophet Joseph Smith. In October, 1842, he was ordained an Elder by Wilford Woodruff.

While in Nauvoo he worked unceasingly on the Temple and was the one to hang the last door. He went through all the trials and persecutions of the saints at that time, but never faltered in his faith. He was very much grieved over the martyrdom of Joseph and Hyrum. After he left Nauvoo he went to Pisgah, where he remained for a time and then went to Council Bluffs and from there he joined the David Wood Company and came to Utah, arriving in Provo in August, 1852. While in Provo, he, in company with Edwin Bunnell, worked as a cabinet-maker and carpenter. He settled in Provo on the advice of his cousin, George A. Smith, who said there was need of carpenters and cabinetmakers in that place. In 1859, he came to Midway and was one of the early settlers of Provo Valley. After arriving here he devoted most of his time to farming, as his second son, Jeremiah A. Robey, had learned the trade of carpentry and could handle most of the work here.

On November 7, 1833, he married Ruth Tucker, by whom he had ten children. In 1876, he went on a mission to his old home in West Virginia and met most of his relatives, whom he had not seen since 1841. He was one of the pioneer bee-raisers of this valley, and he set out some of the first fruit trees—apple, pear and plum. He raised currants, gooseberries, and strawberries for his own table and had success with celery.

For a number of years he was recorder for the Snake Creek Mining District, and he held the position of school trustee for over thirteen years. He was a quiet, unassuming man. He lived to see his fifth generation and had a picture taken with them. He was always an earnest advocate of the gospel, and loved to bear his testimony to its truthfulness. He impressed upon his family and friends the knowledge he knew that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God. After the death of his wife in 1892, he made his home with his youngest daughter, Matilda Springer, until his death. After an illness of one week, at the age of 94 years and seven months, he passed away. In his latter days he did a great



JEREMIAH AND RUTH
TUCKER ROBEY

Jeremiah Robey, son of Jeremiah Robey and Mary Ogden Robey. Born April 14, 1809 in Harrison County, West Virginia. Married Ruth Tucker November 7, 1833. Died November 22, 1903, Midway. Ruth Tucker was born June 26, 1816 at Shinston, West Virginia, a daughter of Jeremiah and Ruth Ashcroft Tucker. She died in Midway, January 17, 1892.

Jeremiah Robey's parents were among the wealthy, prominent people of Harrison County and had a large family of sturdy sons and daughters. His mother was a sister to Susan Ogden Bigler, the mother of the late Bathsheba Bigler Smith, and grandmother of Edna and Juliana Smith, widows of the late President Joseph F. Smith.

In his early manhood Mr. Robey learned the trade of carpenter and cabinetmaker. He went from one place to another where carpenters were needed, always demanding a good wage. His uncle, Mark Bigler and wife Susan, had become members of the Church and had moved to Nauvoo. Mrs. Robey had also been converted, but her husband had not, he was away in Indiana on a carpenter job. Mrs. Robey decided to go to Nauvoo. She took her three little children and joined the Biglers there. They wrote Mr. Robey that work was plentiful in Nauvoo, so he met his family there in 1841. His wife had been a member of the Church for three years, but as yet he had not been converted.

Midway Town Hall. The lime used was burned by Fred O. Haueter in 1939-41. Others to work at the trade were Thomas Bonner, Henry T. Coleman and Nephi Huber.

MARBLE QUARRY

Marble of high quality was discovered high in the hills at the head of Snake Creek Canyon by Sidney Epperson shortly after Midway was established. From this quarry huge blocks of marble were brought down the rugged, twisting canyon on two-wheeled carts drawn by oxen. The slabs were taken to the Cornelius Springer homestead where they were fashioned into usable blocks. An early use of the marble was for headstones, some of which can still be seen in the Midway Cemetery.

One of the early owners of this quarry was Fredrick Buehler. Later, Andrew Gebhardt of Salt Lake City bought the quarry for \$1,000. He changed the name to the Wasatch Marble Company of Utah and established the company headquarters in Salt Lake City. The quarry continued successfully through the 1880's.

ICE STORAGE

Refrigeration in Midway's early years was accomplished through cutting and storing of ice in chilly winter months and utilizing it in the hot days of summer.

As sub-zero winter weather formed thick layers of ice on lakes and ponds, crews would take large saws and cut the ice into chunks that could be stored. Usually the ice was cut into blocks weighing between 100 and 125 pounds. The blocks were carried by sleighs to storage houses where they were stacked and covered by thick layers of sawdust.

Persons with lakes or ponds on their property would usually sell the ice for 15 cents a ton if the buyer would cut it, or as much as 50 cents a ton if it was pre-cut.

Two-man, cross-cut timber saws were used to cut the ice, with the handle on one end of the saw removed. Lines for sawing were laid out on the ice with a straight board. Ice tongs were used to remove the chunks of ice. The work was slippery and cold, and many a man fell into the icy cold water and had to be dried out before he could resume working. Teams of horses were known to break through the ice also, creating great excitement and often suffering before the animals could be hauled out of their freezing predicaments.

As summer time came, the saw-dust would be scraped or washed from the ice to provide refrigeration. If properly stored, the ice would usually last through most of the summer.

Ice entrepreneurs included Marks Jeffs and Nels Johnson who sold from the mill pond. The Rasband brothers had a pond west of the Provo River bridge between Midway and Heber. Retail outlets for ice included Coleman's Store, William Watkins and William L. Van Wagener's stores.

Some of the early ice cutters included George T. Watkins, John Luke, Fred Haueter, Ulrich Kuhni, Albert Lockner, Joseph Galli and Joseph Abegglen.

MINING

Midway had still not been formed from the two Snake Creek communities when the first high grade ore was discovered in 1864 in the Park City mining district. While the discoveries were not in the Midway area, their impact was soon to be felt in the new community. Other outcroppings of good grade ore were discovered in American Fork Canyon in 1875. Midway lay almost in the middle of these two important discoveries and the areas of Snake Creek, Pine Creek and Dutch Canyon soon were overrun with prospectors. Many claims were staked out in this area, with Sidney H. Epperson, Jeremiah Robey and Nathan Springer leading much of the prospecting work.

Following the initial discoveries in the Park City area the Ontario, Daily Judge, Daily West, American Flag, New Quincy, Little Bell, New York, Wabash, California, Silver King, Park Utah, Spirro Tunnel, New Park and the Park City mines were organized. Many smaller mines were discovered, but soon were consolidated with the larger companies.

Park City began to grow rapidly with these discoveries, and for more than half a century the mining work supported two railroads, the Denver and Rio Grande and the Union Pacific. The Park City mining district is about eight miles north of Midway, and for more than 75 years has served as the major market center for the farmers of Midway. The mines also furnished employment for many men from Midway who chose mining as their pursuit for wealth and happiness. Many prospered, some failed and several lost their lives or were maimed in a sincere effort to succeed.

In American Fork Canyon the first discoveries were made around 1875 and by 1888 the Miller Hill, the Dutchman and the Pacific mines were the three major producers. These mines operated for many years, but the ore bodies were relatively small and soon were depleted. However, for a few years these mines supported the state's first narrow gauge railroad.

These American Fork Canyon mines also served as a market for eggs, butter, cheese and vegetables for Midway farmers. Reports indicate that some of the farmers carried as much as 75 pounds of produce on their backs, following a rough trail over the mountains west of Midway into the canyon to supply the needs of the miners.

In the Midway area itself a mining district was organized, known as the Blue Ledge mining district. Two of the earliest mines were the Flagg Staff and Lucky Bill, neither of which produced much ore. Other early properties near Midway included the Southern Tier group and the St. Louis-Vasser claims. The Southern Tier group was owned by Eugene Levigneure and a Mr. St. Joer, both Frenchmen. From the Southern Tier

came some \$90,000 worth of high grade ore. This mine was one of Midway's largest producers. Henry T. Coleman of Midway directed the work in these mines, and some who were employed included John Morton, Jerry Springer, Nate Springer, George Schear, John A. Sulser, Carson Smith, David J. Wilson, Nymphus Watkins, Jacob Kummer, Frank Greenwell, Charles Alexander, Adam Empey, Brigham Hamilton and William John Wilson.

The St. Louis-Vasser claims were located by Judge A. C. Hatch, Henry T. Coleman and Samuel Hair, along with the West St. Louis and Merle V. groups of mines. About 1900 they sold their interests to a group of mining men from Salt Lake City, including Robert Walker and Colonel Shaunessy. Under new management the mines employed several Midway men and began working on the St. Louis-Vassar Incline Shaft. Charles Buhler had charge of the work, but the company ran out of money and the property was turned back to the locaters.

Another large operation that hired many local men included the Steam Boat Tunnel, later known as Mountain Lake Tunnel. Charles Buhler was foreman of the Steam Boat Tunnel and William Witt of the Mountain Lake Tunnel. Many who worked in these mines included Henry T. Coleman, John Buehler, Nathaniel Baldwin, Ernest Kohler, Charles Bigler, William Bigler, Samuel Ritchie, Fred Sonderegger, John A. Sulser and Hyrum Shelton, and two women who were cooks, Mrs. Mary Bigler Kohler and Mrs. Bertha Sonderegger Wilson.

Others who worked at the Mountain Lake, or Jesse Knight operation, were Elijah Watkins, Joseph Hair, George Bonner, Charles Bonner, George Schear, Joseph Galli, Charles Mitchell. Joseph Hair was killed and Elijah Watkins blinded in an explosion in this mine.

Later the Daily Judge Mining Company and the Knight Investment Company ran the Snake Creek Tunnel as a joint venture in 1910. Many who found employment here included Ernest Dayton, (Jay) John Abplanalp, Frank Abplanalp, Michael Abplanalp, Alonzo Abplanalp, John Burt, Sam Ritchie, Fred Sonderegger, Thomas Kummer, Henry S. Coleman, Alvah Ross, Morris Watkins, John H. Buehler, George Bonner, Charlie Bonner, William Bigler, Charles Bigler, Charles Mitchell, Charles Whistler, Eli Korah, Joseph Schoney, Earl Hardy, Emil Nelson, William Hancock, and cooks, Mrs. Alice Mohlman and Mrs. Ella O'Neil Hancock Whistler.

A shaft known as the J. I. C. was sunk on Bonanza Flat and operated for a short time. Jerry Springer and Alonzo Alder were some who worked on this shaft. "The Montreal" was also operated in the early 1900's, and provided work for the Alder brothers, Alfred, William and James, as well as Peter Abplanalp. The "Lone Hill" was operated by Ira Clark, Nate Springer, Alfred Alder, Jacob Kummer, Alonzo Alder and Peter Abplanalp.

The "John the Revelator" mine was first opened by Henry T. Cole-

man for the Southern Tier Mining Company, but later discontinued. It was worked at different times by lessors who included Sam Hair, Monroe Hair, Nephi Huber, Johnny Shelton, Dale Coleman, Martin Huber and Robert Gorlinski.

Other claims in the Midway area that were worked at one time or another included The Big Four, Balsam Grove, Heber Cities, Lone Pine, Pine Cone, Boulder Basin, Blue Bird, Silver Island Lake and Rudie.

William (Billie) Bogan who had considerable interests in the Park City area, which he later sold, also located some claims in the Snake Creek area. He worked these for many years until he became too old. Fred Hanney worked for many years for Mr. Bogan, as did John A. Sulser.

Another "old timer" who spent most of his life at claims in the White Pines was Henry Tattersall. He wore a long, white flowing beard, and was always seen without a hat coming from his diggings or from the springs with pails of water.

Jack McCarthy, Levi Hancock and others worked claims in Dutch Canyon, while "Brig" Hamilton, James (Jim) Hamilton and William John Wilson worked Blue Bird. A Mr. Kilkennie claimed Horse Shoe Bend, and Nate C. Springer, Alfred Alder and Cornelius Springer worked their claim, Silent Shade. William Hackett and Barney Kennah had claims near the divide at Brighton and Nephi Huber and George Wilson worked the Rudie claim.

At one time Ephraim Mohlman and George Watkins leased the Mountain Lake mine and shipped a few tons of ore. Orvil Scott, Wilford Van Wagonen, Sidney Epperson and William (Billie) Johnston also had claims in Snake Creek and Dutch Canyon. Mr. Johnston first claimed the area where the New Park Mine now is located. He held the claims for many years, though many advised him to give them up. His judgment and faith were later vindicated when the New Park was brought in on his claims.

Benjamin (Bennie) Clark also worked claims in Sid's Canyon and Lime Canyon, but the operation was limited.

Mining has aided Midway's economy in many ways during the years. Many have succeeded in working claims while others sold produce or other goods to those who came to work in the mines. LeRoy Buehler, William Larsen, William Haueter, Joseph Bergener, Charles Buehler, Joseph Buehler and Carl Hanney made mining their career and achieved in their chosen fields.

Perhaps the two most successful Midway men in mining outside the area were John H. Buehler and Henry S. Coleman. Both got their starts in Midway mines and later rose to prominent positions in Utah and Nevada mining firms.